

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

## CLEAN FORM

~~Please CANCEL claims 29 – 33, without prejudice or disclaimer.~~

~~Please AMEND claims 1, 34, and 40 as follows:~~

1. (AMENDED) A method, comprising:  
identifying a product associated with a first rebate, the first rebate being  
redeemable by mailing a predetermined document associated with the first rebate to a  
first entity associated with the first product;  
*a1*  
determining a second rebate associated with the product;  
offering to a consumer the second rebate in exchange for the first rebate;  
obtaining the predetermined document, surrendered by the consumer at a retailer  
terminal operated by a second entity, such that the consumer can no longer redeem the  
first rebate; and  
issuing the second rebate to the consumer.

*a2*  
2. (AMENDED) A method of processing rebates, comprising:  
identifying a first rebate associated with a product, the first rebate being  
redeemable by mailing a predetermined document associated with the first rebate to a  
first entity associated with the first product;  
determining an alternative rebate associated with the product;  
accepting input indicative of a selection of the alternative rebate; and if selected,  
obtaining the predetermined document, surrendered by a consumer at a retailer  
terminal operated by a second entity, such that the consumer can no longer redeem the  
first rebate; and  
issuing the alternative rebate to the consumer.

*a3*  
3. (AMENDED) A method, comprising:  
identifying a product;

identifying a first rebate and a second rebate associated with the product, the first rebate being redeemable by mailing a predetermined document associated with the first rebate to a first entity associated with the first product;

receiving an acceptance of the second rebate from a consumer;

obtaining the predetermined document, surrendered by a consumer at a retailer terminal operated by a second entity, such that the consumer can no longer redeem the first rebate;

issuing the second rebate to the consumer; and

receiving a request from the consumer to redeem the second rebate.

*a3*  
*cont'd*

Please ADD the following claims 44 – 52:

44. (NEW) A method, comprising:

determining a request to redeem a first rebate associated with a product, the first rebate having been mailed to a first entity;

determining an address associated with the request to redeem;

determining whether the address had previously been provided at a retailer terminal, thereby determining whether a second rebate associated with the product had previously been accepted, and

*a4*

preventing the redemption of the first rebate if the address had previously been provided at the retailer terminal.

45. (NEW) An apparatus comprising:

a processor, and

a memory that stores a program for directing the processor;

the processor being operative with the program to:

perform the method of claim 44.

46. (NEW) A computer readable medium encoded with instructions for directing a processor to:

perform the method of claim 44.

*b1b*  
47. (NEW) An apparatus comprising:

a processor, and

a memory that stores a program for directing the processor;

the processor being operative with the program to:

perform the method of claim 1.

*b1b*  
48. (NEW) A computer readable medium encoded with instructions for directing a

*b2*  
processor to:

perform the method of claim 1.

*a4*

49. (NEW) An apparatus comprising:

a processor, and

a memory that stores a program for directing the processor;

the processor being operative with the program to:

perform the method of claim 34.

50. (NEW) A computer readable medium encoded with instructions for directing a

processor to:

perform the method of claim 34.

51. (NEW) An apparatus comprising:

a processor, and

a memory that stores a program for directing the processor;

the processor being operative with the program to:

perform the method of claim 40.

52. (NEW) A computer readable medium encoded with instructions for directing a

processor to:

perform the method of claim 40.